

SITUATION REPORT NO. 1
FINAL REPORT
INCIDENT NO. 96-41
DATE: March 26, 1996 TIME: 10:00 am

TO: Governor Edward T. Schafer
State Capitol
Bismarck, ND 58504

1. NATURE OF DISASTER: Severe winter weather including below zero temperatures dangerous wind chills and large accumulations of snow; with snow becoming heavy at times.

These cities received the following water equivalents during the three day span of the storm. The measurements do not include the moisture received prior to this winter storm.

Devils Lake	.46	Minot	.58	Williston	.33
Dickinson	.60	Jamestown	.52	Fargo	.31

2. DEATH AND INJURIES: On March 24, 1996, Nelson County reported 5 people injured in an accident involving three vehicles . All needed transportation to an area hospital. Some are listed in critical condition.

Morton County reported 6 injuries due to vehicle accidents. All needed transport to hospitals.

3. DAMAGE: Heavy snow fell on Saturday leaving slush that became slippery as temperatures dropped. Northeast winds increased to 25 to 50 mph by Saturday night causing considerable blowing and drifting with near zero visibilities. The wind chills ranged from 25-40 below. The severe wind and snow pack left roads extremely icy and traveling dangerous.

Roads containing lighter snow experienced ground drifting which produced snow fog in some areas.

Zero visibility and white out conditions caused snow plows to be taken out of service.

Some schools began school up to 2 hours late to enable plows to clear roads.

Morton County reported multiple vehicle damage due to blizzard like conditions.

4. RESOURCES COMMITTED:

LOCAL: Local county and city officials, emergency management offices, public works and law enforcement agencies. Additionally, school districts, county road departments, city fire departments.

STATE: ND Division of Emergency Management, State Radio Communications, ND Highway Patrol, and the ND Department of Transportation.

FEDERAL: United States Weather Service.

5. VOLUNTEER ACTIONS: The news media has been broadcasting public safety information.

Volunteers have been helping with snow removal.

The Salvation Army & volunteers from Glen Ullin, New Salem, and Hebron, have helped in the feeding and sheltering of stranded motorists. Motorists sheltered at the Catholic Church in New Salem, the Glen Ullin Blue Room, and the Hebron City Hall.

6. MAJOR ACTIONS: The ND Division of Emergency Management is continuing to monitor the situation, and the ND Highway Patrol are assisting with stranded vehicles.

The ND Department of Transportation closed Interstate 94 and Highways 2, 29, and 83 due to blizzard like conditions. All roads reopened by 12:00 pm on Monday, March 25. DOT crews continue to plow roadways.

The Morton County Emergency Manager secured anti-rejection medicine for a liver transplant patient living in Hebron. He transported the medication from Mandan to Hebron with the assistance of a county snowplow and four-wheel drive vehicle.

7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: None at this time.

8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: None at this time.

9. OTHER INFORMATION:

Signed _____
Douglas C. Friez
State Director